

*"The workhorse of the Air Force"*

# Buckeye Flyer

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Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

June 2002

## New commander has solid C-141 experience

by Staff Sgt. Charlie Miller  
445th AW/Public Affairs

Colonel Hanferd J. (Rusty) Moen Jr. assumed command of the 445th on May 5, 2002. The colonel was formerly the commander of the 939th Rescue Wing in Portland, Ore.

"I owe a big 'Thank You' to Maj. Gen. James Czekanski, our 4th Air Force commander and Lt. Gen. James Sherrard, commander of the Air Force Reserve Command, for giving me the great opportunity to come to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base – undoubtedly the most historical place in aviation history – and entrusting me with command of one of AFRC's truly outstanding wings," Col. Moen said as he addressed the wing for the first time as commander. He welcomed and addressed many generals in attendance and acknowledged several of his mentors.

"You, the enlisted corps, remain the backbone of the Air Force Reserve. In my very short tour through some of the (445th) maintenance complex yesterday, the pride and professionalism of all the maintainers was clearly evident as I toured your well kept facilities and had the chance to meet a few of you. The result of that professionalism is clearly evident to our higher headquarters in the aircraft you have generated since the events of September 11th, and flying hours far in excess of what you are funded and manned for. The same can be said for the operators who have been flying all these hours, all done with volunteerism," the new commander said.

"The challenges ahead of the 445th are many as we continue to safely fly the C-141 into its inevitable sunset, and face conversion to a new weapon system. I have been involved in the conversion process at Portland the past year and a half. With the support of the local community, congressional delegation, host base and all of you standing in front of me, I know we will succeed with flying colors in converting from the best C-141 wing to the best C-5 wing," Moen said.

Major General Czekanski said he "couldn't think of a better replacement for (Brig. Gen.) Paul (Cooper) to lead this wing into the future. Colonel Moen is cut from the same mold and the wing will reach new heights, improving and expanding on the work of General Cooper."



photo by MSgt. Doug Moore

**Col. Hanferd (Rusty) Moen, the new wing commander (center right) stands next to his wife Barbara, as both are greeted and welcomed by reservists.**

Outgoing wing commander Paul Cooper, who Col. Moen named as one of his mentors, said that Moen was the best choice to assume command of the 445th. Cooper thanked the wing "for topping off my career in the best way possible. You are an outstanding unit and you have the award to prove it. I salute you all." And with that, Cooper stepped away from the podium and saluted the wing and assembled guests, family members and dignitaries.

The new commander has served as Reserve advisor to the commander, Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, Ill.; commander and deputy commander for wing and group operations at Andrews AFB, Md. with the 459th Airlift Wing; and chief of safety and wing Standards and Evaluations officer at McChord AFB, Wash. with the 446th Airlift Wing.

Moen earned a bachelor's degree from Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colo. and a master's degree from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Ft. McNair, Washington, D.C.

He is also a 1973 graduate of the officer-training program, Lackland AFB, Texas. The colonel graduated from pilot training at Moody AFB, Ga., in 1974. He is a command pilot with more than 6,700 flying hours in C-141 Starlifters, C-130s, T-37s and T-38s.

## Father's Day

by 1st Lt. Darren Duncan  
445th AW/Chaplain

*"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you." Exodus 20:12*

Father's Day should be a wonderful day of gratitude as we honor our dads for all that they mean to us. Growing up, our fathers were hard on us. They attempted to show us tough/love so that we would grow into mature, functioning adults. Bill Cosby tells two humorous observations from his book, *Fatherhood*, which illustrates this point. He writes:

"Now that my father is a grandfather, he just can't wait to give money to my kids. But when I was his kid and I asked him for fifty cents, he would tell me the story of his life. How he got up at 5 a.m. when he was seven years old and walked twenty-three miles to milk ninety cows. And the farmer for whom he worked had no bucket, so he had to squirt the milk into his little hand and then walk eight miles to the nearest can. All for 5 cents a month. The result was that I never got my 50 cents. But now he tells my children every time he comes into the house: 'Well, lets see how much money old Granddad has got for his wonderful kids.' And the minute they take money out of his hands I call them over to me and I snatch it away from them. Because that is MY money."

We may have fond or bitter memories about our father; however, it is important to remember that they loved us and always wanted what was best for us. Remember them this Father's Day for what they mean to you in your life.

## "Your pay may be affected..."

by Col. Kerry Breed  
445th AMDS/CC

The Reserve implemented a new annual physical exam program, known as Reserve Component Preventative Health Assessment (RCPHA) in January 2002. At the 445th Airlift Wing, we have been hearing about it since September 2001. All of the Health Monitors throughout the wing have been key to getting the word out about RCPHAs to their individual squadrons. The first group of people that went through the RCPHA program in January 2002, found it was a fairly easy and in many cases quicker than the old physical exam process

The deadline is fast approaching for those members of the wing that have a birthday falling between January and June! Everyone in the Air Force Reserve must complete a questionnaire on-line ([www.wbits.afrc.af.mil](http://www.wbits.afrc.af.mil)) and a required medical evaluation each year prior to or on their birth month. At the 445th, we were allowed a "grace period" to enable

everyone to adjust to the changes that came with this new program. The "grace period" ends on 1 June 2002.

What happens if you goofed and missed the deadlines? Unfortunately, you are medically profiled and can no longer participate for pay or points. The 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron has made a commitment to stay "as long as it takes" on 1 June at the base hospital to complete what is expected to be a record number of RCPHAs. The remainder of this fiscal year, RCPHAs can be scheduled by your squadron Health Monitor on the following dates: 1 June, 27 July, and 3 August. Please note: there are no RCPHAs scheduled during the month of September because the AMDS will be out at the Prime Beef site all weekend, doing their war-time training.



Col. Kerry Breed

## Buckeye Flyer gets a new look

by Maj. Ted Theopolos  
445th AW/Public Affairs

The wing's newsletter "Buckeye Flyer" gets a new look this issue ... color.

Last month was the final issue under the old contract. The new contract includes color for special events, stories or deployments. Color will not be used on all issues because of cost.

However, with the new contract is a new delivery date meaning the public affairs office now has to have the Buckeye Flyer completed eight working days

before the newsletter is mailed.

What does that mean to you? If you wish to have a story or item published, you now must have it to the public affairs office around the 15th of the month for us to meet the publishers deadline.

With the date moved up, it also means that some stories from the gray UTA will not make the deadline and will be held to the following month. The same is true for items to be published. To be sure you meet the publishing deadline, plan ahead and have it done by the 15th of the month.

## Buckeye Flyer



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Master Sgt. Douglas Moore.....NCOIC/AV  
Master Sgt. John Klemack.....NCOIC  
Staff Sgt. Charles Miller.....Staff Writer  
Staff Sgt. Raquel Matthews.....Audio-Visual Specialist



# Three little kittens

by Staff Sgt. Charlie Miller  
445th AW/Public Affairs

I think a part of being in the military has to do with being frightened. To some, that may sound a bit odd so I'll explain. I'm a member of the Air Force Reserve 445th Airlift Wing, just like you. Being called to active duty and going to war are constant concerns for all reservists and National Guard members. "Call-ups", as everyone knows, have been much more frequent since the terrorist attacks on 9-11. Being pulled away from my wife and six children is frightening to me.

I spent some time at Ramstein Air Base in Germany recently. I was part of a mission to drop off supplies to the troops there and then transport 16 medical patients to stateside military hospitals. Part of our C-141 transport aircraft was converted into an airborne ambulance. There were three nurses and four medical technicians on board and they had enough medical equipment to treat just about anything that might happen to their patients during the 10-hour flight. It was incredible seeing how the air ambulance service works and how well the patients were cared for.

Before we left Germany I had an

experience that helped me understand ever so clearly why I serve in the military.

I was in the Ramstein Community Center, which can easily be called the base's family. Dozens of family-based activities offered throughout the week like clarinet lessons, read-aloud book clubs, art classes for different ages and a huge variety of crafts. They also have pretty good food.

I was standing in the "Place Order Here" line debating between vegetable lasagna and some concoction of pizza when three little sisters came by me with their mother leading the way. They trooped to the "Pick Up Orders Here" line. The little girls, probably ages two, three and four, were all "meowing," with the oldest on all fours as they followed their mom. I gathered that they had come from one of the activity areas at the center.

While Mom was gathering the food and drinks, two of the three girls, whom I could see now had black whiskers painted on their faces, decided that they should curl up on the floor right then and there. With the girls still meowing, Mom addressed them as she stepped away from



the counter with the food. "Jessica! Ashley! You need to get up off the floor."

As they passed in front of me I remarked to their mother, "Nice kittens you've got there." She smiled and said thanks. Even though I was alone I had a feeling this would be a memorable dinner even before I'd made up my mind on what to order. The atmosphere was sure to beat the food hands down no matter what I ate.

I found myself seated about 20 feet away from the three little kittens. The oldest and youngest ended up on the floor after a few pieces of pizza. Pretty soon the 2 year-old was crying about something. Mom tried to calm her. No luck. Then she said "Honey, stop crying, you're ruining your whiskers!" I didn't think the atmosphere could get any better.

When they finished eating they took the rear exit, much to my disappointment. I sat there eating and reflecting on how my daughters probably would have done the same thing with the meowing and walking on all fours and curling up right in the middle of a busy food court.

What really struck me, though, was the fact that I have a sworn duty to protect those little girls in Ramstein, Germany. I had raised my right hand and said I will die to protect American citizens wherever they are and whatever age they might be.

I'm due to reenlistment soon. I'll remember those three little kittens, uh, three little girls, when I raise my right hand again. I'm pretty sure I'll be able to see and hear them in my mind's eye while I recite the oath. I won't be at all surprised if I see their images in every American flag for a long time. And I don't think I'll be frightened anymore at the thought of being called to active duty, terrorists attacks or being separated from my family.



photo by SSgt. Raquel Matthews

## Commander's Coin

**Master Sgt. Doug Moore holds up the commander's coin presented to him by Brig. Gen. Paul Cooper, 445th AW commander. Moore was awarded the coin for his outstanding services to the wing for audio/visual support.**





# After 33 years, you can say "Been there ... done that"

by Master Sgt. John Klemack  
445th AW/Public Affairs

For many of us, the expression "Been there ... done that ..." is spoken in jest. For Chief Master Sgt. Richard D. Hayes, Jr., where he has been and what he has done is anything but humorous. Substantial and substantive would be more descriptive when looking at his combined 33 years of Air Force active duty and Reserve service.

Chief loadmaster for the 445th Airlift Wing's 356th Airlift Squadron, Hayes has logged more than 9,900 hours performing a variety of missions in several different cargo aircraft from a number of bases across the globe. His first assignment after completing loadmaster training was with the 58th Military Airlift Squadron at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., serving on A-model C-141s. The 58th MAS was a geographically separated unit whose parent organization was the 436th Airlift Wing at Dover AFB, Del. The "East Coast Shuttle" was a primary assignment for the 58th — a good mission for Hayes to cut his teeth on. The shuttle's mission amounted to an airborne bus or taxi service, flying troops on reassignments or other duties to-and-from Robins AFB, Charleston AFB, S.C., Dover AFB, Del., and McGuire AFB, N.J.

Chief Hayes served in the early '70s in the Pacific in support of U.S. actions in Vietnam. He and his fellow C-141 aircrews flew in and out of Clark AB, Philippines, Yokota AB, Japan, and Tan Son Nhut AB, South Vietnam. Many of their missions were trans-Pacific flights in-and-out of Travis AFB, Calif.

"A sobering part of our mission included transporting body bags, which sometimes filled the aircraft," Hayes said of his flights back from Southeast Asia. "Casualties were taken to Travis," he added.

In addition to working strategic airlift on C-141s during the Vietnam hostilities, Hayes flew as a loadmaster in-country, crewing the venerable C-123 *Provider*, a twin-engine, short-range assault transport used to airlift troops and cargo onto short runways and unprepared airstrips.

While based at Da Nang AB, So. Vietnam, Hayes also worked as a crewmember on the C-130 *Hercules*, participating in the highly-regarded and extremely important tactical airlift operations called *Command Vault*. The Commando Vault mission was to clear helicopter landing zones in the dense jungle undergrowth of Vietnam. To fulfill that mission, the Air Force developed the Bomb Live Unit-82/B. Weighing in at a hefty 7.5 tons, the "BLU-82" was essentially a large thin-walled tank (1/4-inch steel plate) filled with a 12,600-lb. "slurry" mixture of ammonium nitrate, aluminum powder, water, and a gelling agent. The designers optimized this bomb to clear vegetation while creating little or no crater. It cleared landing zones about 260 feet in diameter — just right for helicopter



Chief Master Sgt. Richard Hayes

aircraft per day supporting the allied forces at An Loc. Though the work was excruciatingly difficult, Hayes says he "wouldn't have wanted to do anything else." He was assigned to Tan Son Nhut for about six months, but hastens to point out that one of the most meaningful kudos he received during his tour in Vietnam was a simple letter of appreciation from his aerial port squadron commander "... for those 60 straight days we worked around the clock without a break."

Following his Vietnam service, Hayes worked at Dyess AFB, Texas, and then moved on to Rickenbacker AFB, Ohio, with the 356<sup>th</sup> Tactical Airlift Squadron. It was then that he converted from active duty to the Air Force Reserve's ART (Air Reserve Technician) program, allowing him to do what he loves and does best — serve as a loadmaster on C-123s, C-130s and his "first love," C-141s. "Being at the right place, at the right time," Hayes reminisced, made the full circle of his career to that point truly memorable.

While at Rickenbacker, he continued his worldwide service, flying missions to the Far East and to the Air Force's northernmost installation, Thule AB, Greenland — and virtually every place in between. As Chief Hayes puts it, "We take care of everything that is typically covered by a flight steward on a commercial passenger aircraft — food, beverages, safety concerns, and all the rest."

After more than three decades as an Air Force loadmaster, Hayes was asked if he was ready to retire. "Nah," he said. "I still have a few more years to go before I'm ready for that."

From the point of view of other members of the 445<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing — and for that matter the rest of the Air Force and the people of America — that Chief Master Sergeant Richard Hayes plans to stay in for a while longer is a good thing. We'll all be better off.



# Reserve offers wide range of education opportunities

If reservists play their cards right, they can get a lot more out of being in the Air Force Reserve than “extra cash.”

Education benefits are available to military members and their families, if they take a little effort to find them. Benefits range from earning a master’s degree to receiving accreditation for skills acquired while on the job – for free or at a reduced price.

Education and training offices offer assistance with enrollment in the Community College of the Air Force, advice on GI Bill benefits and help with tuition assistance to include college-level testing and job-related certification.

CCAF is the only federally chartered institution that awards an associate degree to enlisted people. It offers associate degree programs in five broad career areas: aircraft and missile maintenance, electronics and telecommunications, allied health, logistics and resources, and public and support services.

The college accepts credits for courses completed at regionally accredited civilian colleges and universities. The Air Force may pay up to 75 percent of tuition for classes.

The Montgomery GI Bill, offered through the Department of Veteran Affairs, is probably the best-known benefit to military members. With it, they receive money to defray their cost of living while taking college-level classes, cooperative classes, correspondence courses, apprenticeships, on-the-job training and flying lessons.

Time is of the essence with the GI Bill. With some exceptions, such as for disability, reservists are eligible to receive the benefits for only 10 years from the date of their first six-year enlistment in the Air Force Reserve Command or Air National Guard. For people just leaving active duty, the eligibility runs out 10 years from their date of separation.

To use one’s active-duty GI Bill benefit, members should start by taking their Defense Department Form 214 to the education office. The form determines individuals’ entitlements, depending on the type of program they were enrolled in and how often they plan to go to school.

Under the most recent active-duty program, in which participants must contribute, full-time students and those enrolled full time in a cooperative program receive \$800 per month.

To qualify for the Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve program, reservists must have a six-year obligation to serve in the Reserve and serve in good standing in a drilling Selected Reserve unit or program. The Selected Reserve program pays \$272 per month for full-time students and those enrolled full time in a cooperative program.

An apprenticeship or OJT program offered by a company or union provides an alternative to college or vocational school

while helping employees gain experience in their chosen field.

The active-duty benefit pays \$600 per month for the first six months, \$440 for the second six months and \$280 for the remainder of the program. The Selected Reserve benefit is \$204 the first six months, \$149.60 for the second six months and \$95.20 for the remainder of the program.

“Many veterans are not aware that they can use their GI Bill benefits in on-the-job training and apprenticeship programs with most businesses,” said Georgia Commissioner of Veterans Affairs Pete Wheeler. “These programs are an excellent way to allow a veteran to acquire a skilled occupation under the supervision of a skilled worker in a practical, hands-on way.”

Employers also benefit from the program “because the monetary benefits a veteran receives should motivate that individual to perform at a higher level and in turn enhance business operations,” Wheeler said.

“Veterans typically are experienced, mature and disciplined individuals with positive work habits,” he said. “They have proven employment histories, learn quickly and follow instructions well.”

A state agency or VA must approve any program offered by a school or company.

In addition to the GI Bill, Air Force reservists can obtain help through the Air Force Reserve Tuition Assistance

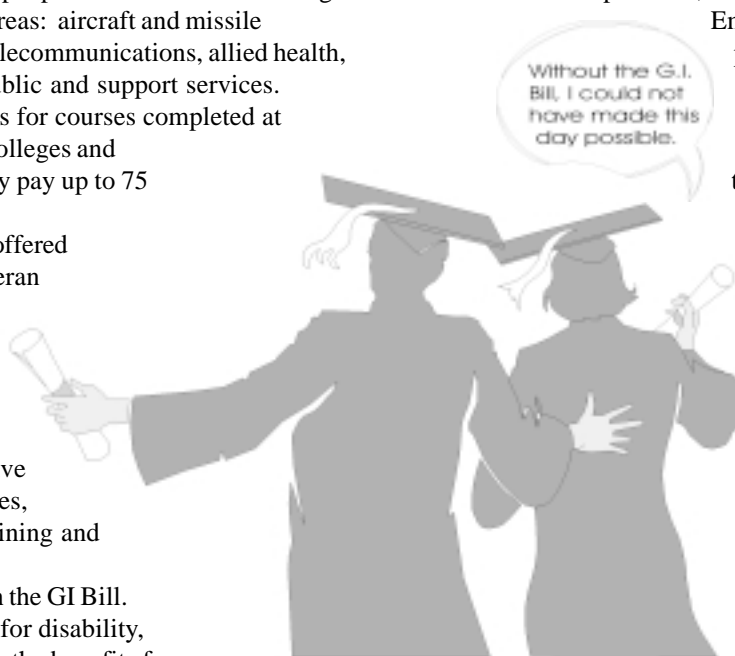
Program. However, they cannot use the tuition assistance program for the same class as the Montgomery GI Bill or MGIB kicker benefits because that would constitute duplication of benefits.

The basic tuition assistance benefit offers 75 percent tuition reimbursement, not to exceed \$187.50 per semester hour, \$125 per quarter hour, with a maximum, cumulative benefit not to exceed \$3,500 in one fiscal year. Reimbursement for a 3-semester hour course cannot exceed \$562.50.

Students will receive 75 percent reimbursement for tuition costs only for courses successfully completed – a passing grade that will apply credit toward obtaining an associate, bachelor or master’s degree. Pre-college refresher courses, for example, don’t qualify for tuition assistance.

TA is not available to people who are seeking an equivalent degree to one already held. However, people who already have a degree may receive reimbursement tuition assistance for courses leading to a CCAF associate degree in their Air Force specialty.

For more information on education, contact the 445th training office at 257-5092. (AFRC News Service)



# Reserve to mirror changes to Air Force wings

When Air Force Reserve Command flying wings begin reorganizing in October to comply with an Air Force directive, they will follow a plan developed by the Headquarters AFRC directorate of plans and programs.

A cross-functional team will set up strategies, policies and directives for implementing the restructuring, which includes creating a new maintenance group, restructuring support groups and reducing operations group tasks.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper directed April 22 that all active-duty, Reserve and Air National Guard wings adopt the new standard wing structure to enhance the service's warfighting capabilities.

"After careful deliberations with major command commanders, we reached a decision on a new wing organizational structure that will standardize operations across the Air Force and enhance our expeditionary capabilities," Jumper said.

The five major changes involved in the standard wing concept include:

- Aircraft and space maintenance specialists currently assigned to operations and logistics groups will be reassigned to a newly created maintenance group;
- Supply and transportation squadrons will be combined to form logistics readiness squadrons;
- Contracting squadrons, aerial ports and LRSs will transfer into existing support groups, which will be renamed "mission support group;"
- Logistics plans functions will transfer to the newly created LRSs; and
- The logistics readiness officer career field initiative, which combines supply, transportation and logistics plans career fields, will begin new accessions in April.

AFRC has a year from October 2002 to implement the standard Air Force wing structure.

"We'll take our time to ensure those changes cause the minimum amount of turmoil," said Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr., AFRC

vice commander. "There should be little need for variation or exception. Change is always difficult and disruptive, but our challenge at all levels of Air Force Reserve Command is to embrace the Air Force changes and do everything to make this a positive, fluid change."

Jumper emphasized the importance of these changes, saying operation and maintenance of air and space weapons systems are core competencies of the Air Force.

"Operations group activities focus on planning and executing air and space power," he said. "Commanders of operations groups are charged with leading their units in combat. They will continue to be considered leaders and role models in the tactical employment of their weapons systems... (and) will be increasingly involved in planning and training for the operational level of war."

The chief of staff said aging aircraft and space fleets, coupled with years of resource shortfalls, will require maintainers to skillfully balance sortie production with the condition of those fleets. He said maintenance groups will need to respond to challenges with the same skill and proficiency as other groups in the wing structure.

"Mission support, in the expeditionary, rapid reaction, contingency-based Air Force of today is (another) core competency," he said. "The Air Force will develop a career path for commanders who understand the full scope of home station employment and sustainment, and deployment, beddown and sustainment at contingency locations: crisis actions, force protection, unit type code preparation, load planning, contracting actions, bare base and tent city preparation, munitions site planning, personnel readiness expeditionary combat support, etc."

Jumper said medical groups will continue to focus on maintaining a fit and ready force, with no change to the structure of those groups.

"I fully understand the magnitude of these changes," Jumper said. "The goal is to achieve a more capable Air Force with professionals who understand and are capable of meeting our ever-increasing, complex mission." (AFRC News Service from Air Force Print News)

**SrA. Ronald L. Shelton**  
Safety Office



Civilian job: Hotel management  
Hobbies: Enjoys writing poetry & volunteers time as a basketball coach for youth.

**SrA. Jennifer L. Carson**  
Chaplain's Office



Civilian Job: Base chapel bookkeeper; on active duty orders with honor guard for 4+ months. Family: Married with a 3-yr.-old and 4-month-old.

**Staff Sgt. Monique Y. Dewberry**  
Wing Plans



Civilian job: Patient access representative  
Hobbies: Enjoys reading, cooking and listening to music; special interest in helping others.

## Wing Profiles





## Welcome and Congratulations!

### Promotions

*Congratulations to the following personnel, recently promoted to the rank indicated:*

#### Airman First Class

Shannon Biddle, 445 CES  
Dawnee Watkins, 445 LSS



#### Senior Airman

Dean Bayless, 445 CLSS



#### Staff Sergeant

Brian Caldwell, 445 CES  
Henry Daigle, 445 SFS  
Charles Dyer, 445 AGS  
Jeremy Kahle, 445 AGS  
Scott Nieset, 445 AGS  
William Stewart, 445 SFS



#### Technical Sergeant

Steven Grulick, 87 APS  
Randy Merrow, 87 APS  
Paul Noe, 445 CLSS  
Tobie Snyder, 445 LG  
Michael West, 445 AGS  
Paul Wright, 87 APS



#### Master Sergeant

John Costello, 89 AS  
Dennis Jones, 445 CES  
Steven Kalapos, 445 CES



Alain Richard, 445 CLSS  
Kemberlee Scott, 445 CES  
Elvis Shepherd, 445 CES  
Jeremy Turner, 89 AS

#### Senior Master Sergeant

Michael Campbell, 87 APS  
Johnny Cupp, 445 ASTS  
Jacqueline Larrison, 87 APS  
Kevin Williamson, 87 APS  
Nathan Wilson, 445 MXS



### Reenlistments

*Congratulations to the following 445th AW members who recently re-enlisted in the Reserve.*

SrA. Brian Caldwell, 445 CES  
SSgt. David Auer, 445 AMDS  
SSgt. Everett Fultz, 445 CES  
SSgt. Charles Miller, 445 AW  
SSgt. James Murphy, 445 LSS  
TSgt. Scott Baker, 445 MXS  
TSgt. Fred Waddell, Jr., 445 AGS  
TSgt. Karl Weitzel, 445 LSS  
MSgt. Patricia Burgess, 445 AMDS  
MSgt. Michael Gdula, 445 OSS  
MSgt. Cynthia Holland, 445 AGS  
MSgt. Willie Hooper, 445 CES  
MSgt. Nathan Wilson, 445 MXS

### Newcomers

*Welcome to the following reservists, recently assigned to the 445th AW:*

AB Anne Hines, 445 AGS  
A1C Glenda Baber, 445 ASTS  
A1C Nicole Ball, 87 APS  
A1C Molly Blackburn, 445 ASTS  
A1C Daniel Castillo, 445 CLSS  
A1C Chad Cazan, 87 APS  
A1C Jason Schrenk, 445 CLSS  
A1C Falana Smith, 445 ASTS  
A1C Sarah Strand, 445 ASTS  
A1C Aaron Wainscott, 445 CLSS  
SrA. Scott Herbert, 445 MSS  
SSgt. Dawn Dixon, 445 MXS  
SSgt. David Triplett, 445 AGS  
TSgt. Kathleen Johnson, 445 AW  
TSgt. David Withers, 89 AS  
TSgt. Daniel Smith, 87 APS

### Awards

*Congratulations to the following 445th AW members who recently earned awards.*

#### Meritorious Service Medal

MSgt. Anthony Cooper, 445 LSS  
MSgt. Paul Prater, 356 AS  
MSgt. Dale Shoup II, 445 MXS  
Maj. Glenn Derting, 356 AW  
Maj. Phillip Frederick, 445 ASTS

Maj. Peter Mychalishyn, 445 OSS  
Lt.Col. Constance Birdwell, 445 ASTS

Lt.Col. Patrick Dietz, 445 AW  
Lt.Col. Ralph Menzel, 445 AW  
Col. James Blackman, 445 OG  
Col. Kerry Breed, 445 AW  
Col. Gregory Love, 445 AW  
Col. Robert Wells, 445 AMDS

#### Air Force Commendation Medal

SSgt. Roger Brewer, 87 APS  
TSgt. Paul Garber II, 89 AS  
TSgt. John Wesley, 89 AS  
MSgt. Michael Campbell, 87 APS  
MSgt. Sheila Couzins, 445 OSS  
MSgt. Michael Gdula, 445 OSS  
Capt. Richard Webster, 356 AS  
Maj. Nancy Byrne, 445 AES

#### Air Force Achievement Medal

SrA. Gregory Ridgeway, 445 CLSS  
TSgt. Matthew Thomas, 445 MXS  
MSgt. Johnny Cupp, 445 ASTS  
1st.Lt. Todd Reeder, 445 CLSS  
Maj. Richard Sater, 445 AW



**Flag Day  
June 14th**

## LSS member earns AFRC award

**by Staff Sgt. Charlie Miller  
445th AW/Public Affairs**

Master Sergeant Rodgers O'Neill, Maintenance Supply Liaison Supervisor for the 445th Logistics Support Squadron has been named the 2001 Air Force Reserve Command Junior Supply Manager of the Year. O'Neill will receive the official award at the 2001 AFRC Supply and Fuels Personnel Awards presentation in Atlanta, Georgia later this year.

"I'm honored that my peers felt I was worthy enough to even be submitted for the award," O'Neill said. "I guess a lot of my customers like me and appreciate the effort I go through for them. I don't stop until I get some resolve."

Master Sergeant Brian Floyd, LSS Supply Manager, Floyd and LSS

Commander Major Michael Clark, nominated O'Neill for the award. "Master Sergeant O'Neill has a 'can-do' attitude and a total grasp of supply procedures that always produces superior results," Clark said.

"I'm following in the footsteps of my mentor, Master Sergeant Floyd," O'Neill said about his supervisor. Floyd won the same AFRC award 3 years ago then went on to win the Air Force-wide award for Supply Manager of the Year. O'Neill, by winning the AFRC award, is automatically nominated for the prestigious Air Force-wide award.

"He's got the credentials to win it," Floyd said. "He's proven time and time again that he has the talent to win the Air Force-wide award."



photo by SSgt. Raquel Matthews

**Master Sgt. Rodgers O'Neill**



## Officials urge reservists to track points

**I**t is important for all reservists to understand the full value of points in their careers, particularly for retirement, said Carole Packham, chief of the retirements eligibility division at the Air Reserve Personnel Center here.

To retire, a reservist must have 20 satisfactory years with the last eight years of qualifying service in the Air Force Reserve Command's Unit Program, the Selected Reserve's Individual Mobilization Augmentee Program or the Individual Ready Reserve.

"Satisfactory service is defined as 50 points per year to include 15 membership points," Packham said. "These points are centered around a person's (retention/retirement) year, which begins on one day of one year and ends on the preceding day of the next year. If your (retention/retirement) year starts July 1, 2002, it ends June 30, 2003."

The 15 membership points are earned for membership in the Air Force Reserve, whether active or not; however, they only count toward a satisfactory year when they are included with the 35 participation points. These participation points can be earned through inactive duty for training, active duty for training, Extension Course Institute courses and all periods of active-duty service.

Reservists earn one point per day for active duty for training and active-duty periods. They also earn two points per inactive duty for training days, better known as a drill days, which are broken down into two four-hour periods. People can also earn varying numbers of points for ECI courses depending on the length of the course.

Reservists should keep records of the points they earn to avoid any surprises when they reach the 20-year point, Packham said.

Reservists who have questions or concerns can reach their representative at ARPC by calling (800) 525-0102, ext. 71270 or 71272; or speaking directly with Packham at (800) 525-0102, ext. 71270. (Courtesy of AFRC News Service)

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## Defense Department approves medal for war on terrorism



WASHINGTON - Air Force reservists called up on extended active duty since Sept. 11, 2001, are eligible to receive the National Defense Service Medal.

Department of Defense officials here announced the authorization May 1.

"The sacrifices and contributions made by the Armed Forces in direct response to the terrorism attacks on the United States and to the long-term

resolution of terrorism merit special recognition," said Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz.

Members of the reserve components, including Air Force Reserve Command, are not eligible to receive the award if they are on active duty solely for the purpose of undergoing a physical examination, for training only, or to serve on boards, courts or commissions.

Eligible service members can receive the award immediately. No closing date has been established.

The National Defense Service Medal was first established by President Eisenhower in 1953, and was subsequently awarded for honorable active service for any period between June 27, 1950, and July 27, 1954, between Jan. 1, 1961, and Aug. 14, 1974, and between Aug. 2, 1990, and Nov. 30, 1995. (AFRC News Service from a DOD news release)



*photo by Mary Allen*

Brig. Gen. Paul Cooper, 445th Airlift Wing commander gets hosed down after his last flight as a C-141 pilot. The general will retire May 20.

